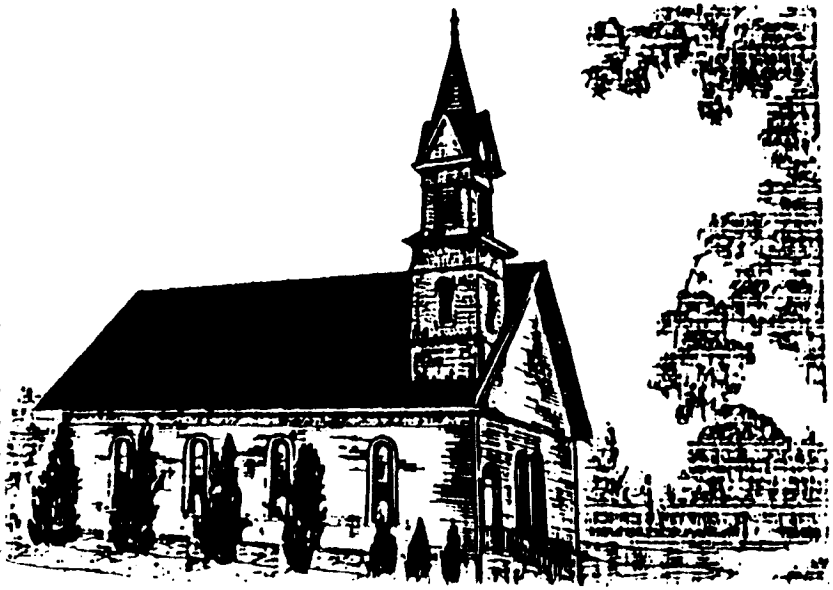


YAMHILL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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MUSEUM, Lafayette, OR, since 1969
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YAMHILL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

JANUARY

NEWS

1991

MEETING NOON, TUESDAY, January 8, 12 o'clock, at the Dayton Christian Church, 5th & Church Streets. The meal is potluck; bring own table service. Visitors are always welcome.

PROGRAM Donna Kindred will be showing pictures of old Dayton.

We welcome Miss Brooks as our new President. She is retired from teaching school -- in Alaska, eastern Oregon, and our own Yamhill County. Lois has been a faithful keeper of the Museum.

Message from our new President -

As I take over the duties of president, I look back with awe at the work Maxine Williams and the other officers and board members have done in the two years that she has been in office. Much has been accomplished and we can be very grateful to Maxine for her leadership, her faithfulness, and her good ideas, plus all the time and effort she has expended. Thanks, too, to George Williams, for his excellent managing of the museum volunteers.

Everyone's past is a part of history and everyone's history is important and interesting and in some ways unique and a part of the past as a whole; so do remember to complete your notes re your family's first contact with Yamhill County on the forms Maxine gave us some time ago.

There were no visitors at the museum Sunday, but those who came Saturday saw the old Christmas decorations Ruth Stoller hung there, which made the museum quite festive. The museum guest book shows that the largest percentage of 1990's visitors live in Yamhill County, of course, but the rest of Oregon was pretty well represented. And it was impressive to note that eighty people were from out of state, coming from as far as Vermont, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Virginia, and North Carolina on the east, and Hawaii on the west. We also had people from Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Arizona, Wyoming, Wisconsin, Ohio, Illinois, Montana, and Idaho, with several from Washington and California. Out of the eighty, five were from foreign countries -- Spain, Germany, Belgium, and Canada.

Lois Brooks

The museum was recently given a pocket-sized diary kept by a young woman student of McMinnville College (later Linfield) beginning January 1, 1909 and ending September of 1910. It was donated by Mrs. W.R. (Jean) Carpenter of McMinnville.

So far we have not been able to identify the student but from the diary we know that her family, which consisted of her mother, an older brother, a sister, and our student, lived on a farm near Ballston, Oregon. Twelve years before the family had lived in or near Carlton and later that had moved to Portland where she had spent several of her school years.

The first few entries in the diary reveal a typical, rather independent, young lady:

- Jan. 1--Mother, brother, and I went to Mrs. Dean's for the day. Had a pretty good time but might have had better.
- Jan. 2--Did not do very much of anything. Wanted to go after the mail but the branch was to high so brother went on old Doll instead.
- Jan. 3--Sick all day. Read Jane Eyre (which mother had forbid my reading).
- Jan. 4--Made plans for returning to school the next day. Got a letter from Viola.
- Jan. 5--Woke up in the morning found it was snowing. Wanted to come back (to school) in the afternoon but it ~~stormed to hard.~~
- Jan. 6--Got up early to start for Mc. But it was storming to hard. Made plans to start in the afternoon. Started but found that we could not make the junction (at Whiteson) in time so stayed all night in Ballston.
- Jan. 7--On my way to the depot I stepped into a mud puddle and went in the water up to my knee. My, but it was cold. Got to Mc all right but was almost frozen. They all seemed very glad to see me, Mr. Brouger in particular.

The diary records school activities, boy friends, girl friends, school attendance (she skipped classes occasionally), but seldom mentions studying, which she must have done because her grades seem to have been adequate.

Summers were spent home on the farm helping her mother in the house, helping her brother with the hay, and visiting back and forth with the neighbors. Part of August and early September of 1909 she and her mother had charge of a cook-wagon that followed a local threshing crew. Names mentioned as having work done by the crew included Blanchard Jim Hill, Pete Bell, Adam and George Gudbrod, Burgess, Harris, Guy Syron, George Shippley, Marion Lady, E. Shippley, and Omstead.

Our museum does not have very many local diaries so this one is a real addition to our manuscript holdings.

Ruth Stoller

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